AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently amended) A method for producing a mature dendritic cell, which comprises the step of

(i) contacting a Sendai virus vector with ~~an~~ a $CD11c^+$ immature dendritic cell or

(ii) contacting a Sendai virus vector with a $CD34^+$ or $CD11c^+$ precursor cell of a dendritic cell and differentiating the precursor cell into an immature dendritic cell,

wherein said immature dendritic cell of (i) or (ii) undergoes maturation thereby producing a mature dendritic cell.

3.-4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently amended) The method of ~~claim 4~~ claim 2, wherein step (ii) comprises culturing the precursor cell in the presence of GM-CSF and IL-4 before or after the contacting step.

6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the vector comprises a cytokine gene.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the cytokine is interferon β.

8.-9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the cell is a human cell.

11. (Currently amended) An isolated vector-containing $CD11c^+$ mature dendritic cell produced by the method of claim 2.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently amended) A method for suppressing tumor growth, which comprises the step of delivering the dendritic cell of claim 11 to a tumor site of a subject having a tumor, wherein the dendritic cell is syngenic or allogenic to the subject.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, further comprising the step of contacting a tumor antigen with the dendritic cell and/or expressing a tumor antigen in the dendritic cell.

15. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the vector comprises a foreign gene.

16. (Previously presented) The mature dendritic cell of claim 11, wherein the vector comprises a foreign gene.

17. (Previously presented) The mature dendritic cell of claim 11, wherein the foreign gene encodes a cytokine or an antigen peptide.

18. (Previously presented) The mature dendritic cell of claim 17, wherein the cytokine is interferon β.

19. (Previously presented) The mature dendritic cell of claim 11, wherein the cell is a human cell.

20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, which comprises the step of contacting a Sendai virus vector with a precursor cell of a dendritic cell and differentiating the cell into an immature dendritic cell, thereby the immature dendritic cell is spontaneously maturated.

21. (Currently amended) An isolated $CD11c^+$ precursor of an immature dendritic cell

comprising a Sendai virus vector.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently amended) An isolated $CD11c^+$ immature dendritic cell comprising a Sendai virus vector.

24. (Currently amended) An isolated $CD11c^+$ mature dendritic cell comprising a Sendai virus vector.

25. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, further comprising causing spontaneous maturation of the immature dendritic cell of (i) or (ii) to matured dendritic cell without further stimulation for the maturation.

26.-29. (Canceled)

30. (New) The method of claim 2, comprising contacting the Sendai virus vector with the $CD11c^+$ immature dendritic cell.

31. (New) The method of claim 25, comprising contacting the Sendai virus vector with the $CD11c^+$ immature dendritic cell.

32. (New) The method of claim 2, comprising contacting the Sendai virus vector with the $CD34^+$ or $CD11c^+$ precursor cell of a dendritic cell and differentiating the precursor cell into an immature dendritic cell.

33. (New) The method of claim 25, comprising contacting the Sendai virus vector with the $CD34^+$ or $CD11c^+$ precursor cell of a dendritic cell and differentiating the precursor cell into an immature dendritic cell.

34. (New) The method of claim 2, wherein the introduction efficiency of said Sendai virus vector into said immature dentritic cell or precursor cell of a dendritic cell is 70% or more.